



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

12

Agenda Item No.

City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Mike Holmes, Councilmember
Prepared by: Amy M. Lind, Asst. City Clerk
Date: June 13, 2011
Subject: Support for Auburn State Recreation Area

The Issue

Shall the Council approve a letter to be sent to the Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman for the House Committee on Appropriations?

Conclusion and Recommendation

By **MOTION**, approve a letter to Honorable Harold Rogers regarding the funding request in the President's budget to preserve the operation of the Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA).

Background

The ASRA provides recreation access to the American River canyon for an estimated 1 million visitors per year and has a significant economic impact on this region.

For over 30 years the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, has provided funds to contract with the California Department of Recreation and Parks (CALPARKS) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CALFIRE) to protect the cultural resources and public safety as well as addressing fire prevention through fuels management. Over the past few years the Bureau of Reclamation has been forced to reduce the federal support for these efforts.

Over the past two years we have been working with the Bureau of Reclamation to resolve this issue. The Bureau has responded by making the request in the President's budget. The regional California delegation in the House of Representatives and our California Senators support this measure. In addition, the Bureau of Reclamation is in negotiations with both CALPARKS and CALFIRE to reinstitute long-term agreements on the management of these lands.

This letter is to show our support for this vital funding.

June 13, 2011

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC, 200515

Dear Chairman Rogers,

I am writing on behalf of the Auburn City Council to urge you to preserve the funding request in the President's budget of \$2.7 M to preserve the operation of the Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA). The ASRA provides recreation access to the American River canyon for an estimated 1 million visitors per year and has a significant economic impact on this region.

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We urge you and your committee to support this vital funding.

Yours sincerely,

William Kirby
Mayor

CC: